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m. n.
9/9/02**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****In Re Application of Goupil et al.****Filing Date: March 13, 2001****Examiner: Di Nola-Baron, I..****Serial No.: 09/805,483****Art Unit: 1615****Title: Hydrogel Biomedical Articles**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

The following comments and amendments are submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on April 29, 2002. This Response is accompanied by a Request for a one month extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) and a credit card authorization form for the required fee of \$110.00.

AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 2-4, 7, and 14-38.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Once Amended) A [hydrogel biomedical article] microparticle formed from macromers having a polymeric backbone comprising units having a 1,2-diol or 1,3-diol structure and at least two pendant chains bearing crosslinkable groups.

5. (Once Amended) The [hydrogel biomedical article] microparticle of claim 1, wherein the backbone polymer comprises poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA) and copolymers thereof.

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To: Exam. Di Nola-Baron From: Collin Beard
Fax: 703-305-3592 Date: Aug. 29, 2002
Re: 09/805,483 Pages: 20

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Conclusion

Neither of the cited references, considered alone or in combination, teach or suggest the claimed inventions. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the references are not appropriate as the basis for rejection of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 29, 2002

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I hereby certify that this paper, along with any paper referred to as being enclosed or attached, is being faxed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office before final fax number 703-305-3592 on the date shown below.

Colleen A. Beard

August 29, 2002